

## The Times-Dispatch

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1908.

### MR. BRYAN AND TAINTED CONTRIBUTIONS.

That Thomas F. Bryan contributed \$20,000 to assist the campaign of William Jennings Bryan for the United States Senate in 1904 is the charge made by the New York World on May 20th.

If the charge is true its publication at this time stamps it as the blow of the most skilful political tactician. Than Mr. Bryan no one has been more vociferous and severe in denouncing campaign contributions made by the "robber corporations" and "men of ill-gotten wealth." He has maintained that these were not contributions in the proper sense, but investments, from which a due return was expected. And the correspondence between himself as one "leading candidate" and Mr. Taft as the other "leading candidate" on the necessity of publicity of campaign contributions and expenses is the latest outcome of his activity.

If it should be established that Mr. Bryan has depended on other factors than the unthought voice of the people and the highly paid voice of his own, he can no longer enjoy the solitary distinction of the "peerless one." He loses the valuable asset of unblemished purity, which so long has been claimed as belonging to him alone.

This reputation explains much of Mr. Bryan's strength with the people. They have seen in him one who voiced their revolt against the dishonesty and spoliation which disfigures the work of so many directing our business and politics. But if Mr. Bryan is, after all, like other politicians—getting all the help he can and from any source, even from those he so bitterly assails—it is well that the fact be known. He ought not to have the benefit of questionable contributions unless he is able to share in their burden.

### PUBLIC CHARITIES IN RICHMOND.

On its face the suggestion of Superintendent George B. Davis that the city open an office and give orders on stores for the relief of charitable cases would seem helpful. Certainly it is better than paying \$524 to distribute \$1,400 worth of cornmeal, but while Superintendent Davis's suggestion may be a great improvement over the inefficient methods now in use, it by no means follows that his plan is the best that can be devised. As a matter of fact, it would be a profound mistake for Richmond to adopt Mr. Davis's idea.

For three years the people of Richmond have been struggling to build, and at last have succeeded in building up an organization for the relief of the poor, for the assistance of the worthy, and, above all, for the prevention, and, as far as possible, the cure of pauperism. The basis of this work is the development of a spirit of self-confidence in the recipients of charity—something that can never be secured by a system in which a city clerk gives a casual beggar an order on a store. The Associated Charities of Richmond have felt the necessity of organizing all the charitable bodies under one management in order that the brains and the experience of all might be brought into harmonious cooperation, and that the professional headbeat might be eliminated, or elevated into a better life.

As a result of this spirit the Associated Charities has come into being. It has twenty-five visitors, who work without money and with that zeal and efficiency which is derivable only from consecration and experience. During the past seven months these visitors have issued 2,869 orders, amounting to \$2,091.02, for necessary groceries. If it cost the city \$600 a year for one clerk, it would mean an expenditure of \$15,000 a year to obtain even the supervision which the Associated Charities now gives for nothing.

Richmond has broken away in large measure from the indiscriminate and essentially destructive kindness that went under the name of charity. As a result we have developed in this city a remarkable organization for relieving suffering and for raising the despairing and down-trodden to a higher place in life. The people of Richmond are entitled to know these things, and owe it to themselves to think upon these things before deciding to adopt a system which will mean either a return to the slaphash and extravagant ways of other days, or creating costly competition between two organizations, both of which are maintained by the tax-payers, and one of which is unnecessary.

### THE RIGHT TO PLAY.

It is the nature of a child to play. He cannot help it if he is healthy, and he should not be forced to re-nounce his natural desires, or gratify them at the risk of his life. Children have loved to play ever since there were children and long before there were cities, and they will love to play as long as childhood exists.

but the narrow-minded old age that builds cities, collects taxes and paves streets has ever had scant sympathy with the cry of the child's heart for pleasure, and, if children have played in cities in the past, it has been rather by the irresistible instinct to leap and run and laugh and shout than from any assistance or help rendered by the lords of the brick houses and hard streets.

Here there is an abundance of cheap land to be had out in Henrico and Chesterfield counties, where children could play safely and at ease if provision were only made for them. Every house that is built in the county, every forward movement of the boundaries of Richmond, increases the value of property just that much, and adds to the cost and difficulty of procuring playgrounds, and at the same time makes their need more imperative. The city of Richmond cannot do better than buy sufficient land at once for the care of the children that must inevitably crowd this city if our present rate of growth keeps up.

Both within and without provision should be made, and we are glad to know that Councilman Hunsdon Cary has secured so favorable an opinion on the Young's Pond tract. Now let the Mothers' Club join with Mr. Cary in showing the value of this purchase to the members of the Council.

As a business proposition it is beyond question a wise thing for the city to buy so valuable land for park purposes. It is the last tract near Richmond which has an original growth of oak; it is ready at once to be turned into a magnificent park; it is within easy access to the city, and its normal increase in value is enough to guarantee the city against loss if it makes the purchase. Richmond has been singularly successful in building its industries—now let it care for its children.

### THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

Rumor comes from Washington that the Republican platform to be adopted at Chicago will contain a strong endorsement of Mr. Roosevelt's administration and an emphatic promise to continue the Roosevelt policies.

If the rumor be true, why all the pother and solicitude over the writing of the document? Why should this leader from one State and that leader from another State be called in consultation? The task presents but little difficulty. Senator Albert B. Beveridge, of Indiana, could do it with one hand.

From a careful reading of the President's messages during the last four years a judicious selection might be made which would vie with the propaganda of Mr. Eugene Debs in progressiveness and scope. The amount of time necessarily taken up in following such a method would be compensated by the thoroughness with which results sought for would be attained.

So easy appears the undertaking that it is not possible to believe the present activity in the office of Mr. Taft can be due to anxiety over its satisfactory accomplishment.

### THE RAILROAD Y. M. C. A.

Richmond made a fine record for itself in the campaign last year for the general Y. M. C. A. Every argument that was persuasive or convincing for that movement should be equally valid in this instance. So far, the railroads have contributed \$30,000, Andrew Carnegie \$10,000, and the railroad employees have, of and for themselves, raised \$12,500. From other sources \$9,500 has been secured, making a total of \$62,000 of the \$100,000 needed.

The campaign for the additional subscriptions has opened auspiciously, and will be aggressively pushed. The men and the cause are deserving of cordial help, and we hope the reputation of Richmond as a liberal and progressive supporter of all such public spirited endeavors will be fully maintained.

The Atlanta Georgian, on the eve of the gubernatorial primary, is beginning to get a little nervous. It is beginning to get a little nervous. It is beginning to get a little nervous.

The rumor that the President was thrown from his horse the other day is plainly false. If anything of the sort happened, it must be evident to the meagrest intellect that the horse was thrown from the President.

Mr. Bryan should lose no time in denying the horrible rumor that he does not like baseball. No man who has the fan vote against him can ever sit in the Whitehouse.

The talk about Judge Parker's boom was started neither by Judge Parker nor his "friends," says a New York State contemporary. Decidedly not. It was started by the boom.

The real interest in that Georgia gubernatorial campaign centres about the fear that if Hoke Smith is elected, the Atlanta Journal may go mad and but its brains out.

"Watch the Milk Bottle," shouts an editorial headline. We are reluctant to disbelieve, but the fact is that we are giving off our spare time to watching the milk.

Oyster Bay is waiting somewhat impatiently for Fane to come out and make the annual clutch at the back of its neck.

It will, of course, be noted that Senator La Follette, feeling a desire to talk all night, did not venture to stay home and do it.

Present indications are that June will make enormous heads in the ranks of the unmarried little star-eyed blondes of Richmond.

## Rhymes for To-Day

### THE DOTTY DIALOGUES.

He kicked the umpire in the face,  
 And stamped upon his features,  
 But she ran on past second base  
 And vanished in the bleachers.

The captain cursed, the mascot cried,  
 The game stopped in a riot,  
 And in the fuss he slipped outside  
 And joined her on the field.

Laughed she: "Well, why where's the boys?"  
 He says: "I'm in the fracas."  
 Snapped he: "Oh, girl, and hold your noise!"  
 The cops is tryin' to take us."

They ran twelve miles to Buskege,  
 And seven more to Blackville,  
 And then they doubled back to Dee,  
 And so on round to Blackville.

But, all the earl was not at home—  
 He faints on the door-step;  
 She mungers and oops, and rise! He an-  
 swers: "No!"

I cannot take no more step,  
 Next morn she ran off fast enough  
 And hoozed her grandma's Jew,  
 And bought the man some nice plum duff.

"What strange things," mused he,  
 "come to pass!"  
 How life is higgie-piggied!  
 And then he lay back on the grass  
 And giggled there and giggled.

—H. S. H.

### MERELY JOKING.

His Friends.  
 A witty priest was once visiting a "self-made" millionaire, who took him to see his splendid home library.

"There," said the millionaire, pointing to a table covered with books, "there are my best friends."  
 He replied the wit, as he glanced at the leaves, "I'm glad you don't cut them!"  
 —Pick-Me-Up.

### DEAR LITTLE KITTY.

Freddie: "And now that we are engaged, dear, I must tell you that I have never kissed a girl before in my life."  
 Kitty: "Good gracious! Freddie, what an awful lot of practice you'll want!"  
 —Illustrated Bits.

### THE DIPLOMATIC HOB.

"Why don't you, handsome? I said no!"  
 "Ah, madam, a beautiful woman's no offering means yes."  
 He got the cold bit for which he was looking, and he was warned over to him.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### THE ETERNAL FEMININE.

"She's quite masculine, isn't she?"  
 "Oh, yes, and she isn't."  
 "Why, you used to consider her extremely masculine."  
 "True, but one day I asked her why she was, and she simply answered, 'Because.'"  
 —Philadelphia Press.

### THE USE OF ENEMIES.

"You have made some enemies, have you not?"  
 "Of course," answered Senator Sorghum.  
 "If you haven't any enemies to start the argument, your friends will be the first to quarrel with you about your noble qualities."  
 —Washington Star.

### PUNS FROM BOSTON.

Gibbs (visiting): "What sort of neighbors have you here?"  
 Gibbs (on his lot): "There's a blacksmith who's engaged in forging, a carpenter who's done some counter-fitting, and a couple of fellows next door who sell and stock for a living."  
 —Boston Transcript.

### CRIS FOR HELP FROM TEXAS.

(From the Houston Post.)  
 If our luxury producers feel disposed to contribute a valuable of such edibles as truffles, mushrooms, caviar, oysters, capers, jessamines, etc., for the benefit of the needy, it may be that the railroad cars can be induced to haul the stuff free.

Aunt Carrie Nation is now in dear old Richmond. Something is always happening on her lot. There's a blacksmith who's engaged in forging, a carpenter who's done some counter-fitting, and a couple of fellows next door who sell and stock for a living.  
 —Boston Transcript.

### PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Alexis Smirnov, a prominent Russian Liberal journalist, has arrived in this country to study economic conditions.

M. J. Nikoloff, a professor of Vilna, Bulgaria, who started in 1903 to walk around the world, has reached St. Louis.

Rev. Dr. Charles Flint Allen, of Middle-town, N. J., has accepted the position of pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in St. Louis.

Omaha's cowboy mayor, James C. Dahlman, has announced his intention of running for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Nebraska.

The deepest hole in the world has been bored in Siberia. It has reached a depth of 7,000 feet and passes through eighty-three beds of coal.

On the French Northern Railway many carriages are lighted by acetylene and the results of using this method of illumination are said to be satisfactory.

Australia's largest cattle herd is that in the Northern Territory, 320 miles east of Port Darwin. It numbers 60,000 head.

As a result of a war with Russia the Japanese territory has been extended by 132,000 square miles to 287,000 square miles, and her population increased by 10,000,000.

London's great rush hours are from 8 to 9 in the morning and from 6 to 7 in the evening. Between 8 and 9 144,000 persons enter the city, between 6 and 7 174,000.

Comptroller Wilson, of Chicago, has ruled that no telephone, traction, electric light or other public utility corporation can make contributions to hospitals or other charitable organizations.

In 268 trade unions in England, with a membership of 629,000, there are 41,000 workmen out of employment, equal to 6.5 per cent. A year ago the percentage of unemployed was 3.3 per cent.

## STATE PRESS

### Editorial Expression on the Subject of the Primary.

Keep the Primary.  
 If any set of men should attempt to abolish the primary system in Virginia and take back steps to precinct meetings they will have to reckon to pay the cost of the change. The people wish the primary system. They realize that the heavy expense of the election and the small times to keep good men from offering for office because they have not the means, and the general public wish to see this matter corrected without destroying the primary system. It is the duty of every citizen to support the primary system in order to remove cause for serious complaint on the score.—Hanover Herald.

### The Plan is Good.

The present primary plan has been a success every way, and every citizen, in principle, as it permits a direct vote by the people for their candidates. It is charged that the plan is not in favor of the primary plan, but was not in favor of it when it was first inaugurated. This is untrue. Senator Martin was not opposed to this plan when it was first begun by the May convention. Mr. Martin promptly said it was immaterial to him whether the primary plan was adopted or not, taking the ground that it was the business of the Democratic party, not his, to decide whether or not to adopt the plan. The fact that it was in him.—Winchester Star.

### Only "Untrammeled" Way.

Mr. Elyson further says: "I am firmly persuaded, after all the arguments have been weighed, both for and against the primary plan, that it is the only untrammeled expression of the preference of the voters." This is the only untrammeled way for the voter to name his choice of candidates, and the candidate in this State is named the way he is named.—Norfolk Ledger-Star.

### Remedy the Defects.

The present primary system of course is not without defects, but they should be remedied, instead of going back to the old method of precinct meetings. The defects of the primary system are not the defects of the primary system, but the defects of the primary system. The defects of the primary system are not the defects of the primary system, but the defects of the primary system.

### For a Primary Law.

The plan, unequivocal advocacy of the primary law by Mr. Elyson will probably have an effect on the primary law. The plan, unequivocal advocacy of the primary law by Mr. Elyson will probably have an effect on the primary law. The plan, unequivocal advocacy of the primary law by Mr. Elyson will probably have an effect on the primary law.

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### Theory is Good.

No question can be raised that the theory of the primary is good and thoroughly Democratic. The theory of the primary is good and thoroughly Democratic. The theory of the primary is good and thoroughly Democratic. The theory of the primary is good and thoroughly Democratic.

### Voice of the People

#### Public Charities.

Sir,—I can hardly believe that you would intentionally misrepresent the management of Public Charities. In your editorial of June 3, you state that it costs \$324 to distribute \$1,400 worth of meal. Allow me to state the actual output and cost of the Department of Public Charities for the year 1907:

Output.	Cost.
2,017 bushels of meal	\$1,192 50
2,017 bushels of wood	1,225 00
226 rations	118 00
226 pairs shoes	1,110 80
Transportation of indigent	163 50
Total	\$10,114 80

#### Salaries and Rent.

One clerk, salary	600 00
One clerk, salary	180 00
One clerk, salary	180 00
Incidentals	22 57
Total	\$1,082 57

The recipients of charity from the department are largely the aged, both white and colored. Scores of old colored men and women, who are unable to work, who could not work, I challenge any one to show prodigality and discriminate giving from this office. No charity organization, either public or private, is infallible. The problem of charity relief is a great one, and the millennium will dawn before it is solved.

For some time I have been considering the abolishment of the meal house, and the substitution of a substitute, such as rice, etc., to one clerk at a cost of \$600 per annum, to run the office of the Department of Public Charities.

It has never cost this department more than \$1,000 per annum in salaries, when the Associated Charities last year paid \$2,821.75 for salaries and expenses. \$2,821.75. The Public Charities paid out for salaries and expenses \$1,082.57, to distribute \$10,114.80, and yet we are charged with being extravagant.

Now, as regards private and associated charities, I believe that the Associated Charities are doing a noble work. The Associated Charities are doing a noble work. The Associated Charities are doing a noble work.

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### Am I Opposed to Subsidized Charities?

Am I opposed to subsidized charities, and, moreover, there are several private charities which are subsidized by the Associated Charities. If you add one, why not add all? So far, I am clearly shown that the Associated Charities are not opposed to subsidized charities. The Associated Charities are not opposed to subsidized charities. The Associated Charities are not opposed to subsidized charities.

I recognize the fact that I am but a unit in the great mass of thinkers, but the expression of my opinion is a study of twelve years, and I am still a student in the world's college of experience.  
 GEO. B. DAVIS.  
 Richmond, Va., June 3, 1908.

### On the Noise Nuisance.

Editor of the Times-Dispatch:—How is it possible for any mortal mind to see any comparison in the noise made by dogs, permitted to be a nuisance by a selfish woman, to the growing wails of the poor in kindred case of \$150 per annum for the privilege of trying to earn an honest living, is to me utterly incomprehensible.

I thought I had in my mind a plan when I said I was "opposed to any individual or officer interfering with the privilege of any one trying to earn an honest living." It is a parallel case to the nuisance of barking dogs, then I am so constructed mentally that I am unable to see it. I suppose there are some people who could not distinguish any difference between the noise of yelping dogs, unpleasant and probably dangerous, and the cry of a babe.

The noise nuisance is a problem that I have never for one moment dreamed myself capable of settling; that we should have a problem of this kind, unquestionably true, but when persons construe what is a nuisance so differently, I realize how very hard a problem it is to settle. I am certainly not by newspaper controversy.

I thought probably I had made my meaning more plain to some persons, in answer to the editorial of May 21, but I suppose the editor did not consider it worth the space in his paper, or has more important matter for to-day's paper.

I am not so unreasonable as to think that every one is wrong who does not agree with me on this question or any other.

In a conversation last evening with a gentleman of more than the average intelligence, he told me the best point made by the "New York Times" was that the noise nuisance was a problem of the best streets paid for the privilege, and should have the comforts that they paid for. I told him that I agreed with him perfectly.

He said that he had never heard any one or agent to include in their lease or deed to any property exemption from noise or any other unpleasantness, that all persons buying or renting property had a right to all the comforts that were promised them, so far as the building was concerned, and they had paid for it.

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